

Claims

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1. An active sawguide assembly, used to position a plurality of saws along a saw drive arbor, the saw drive arbor defining a saw axis, comprising:

a set of sawguides mounted to one another to create an array of sawguides having laterally-abutting lateral sides;

means for laterally translating said array along a lateral path; and

means for a simultaneously pivoting each said sawguide about its own sawguide axis so that said lateral sides slide over one another.

2. A method for laterally translating saws along and pivoting saws relative to a drive arbor, comprising:

simultaneously laterally positioning an array of adjacent, laterally-contacting sawguides along a drive arbor, each said sawguide having a pivot axis and lateral sides;

simultaneously pivoting said sawguides about said pivot axes causing the contacting lateral sides to slide over one another.

3. The method according to claim 2 wherein the laterally positioning step is carried out with sawguides having opposed, flat, contacting sliding surfaces.

4. The method according to claim 2 wherein the laterally positioning step comprises mounting the sawguides onto an elongate member oriented parallel to the drive arbor.

5. The method according to claim 4 wherein the laterally positioning step comprises biasing the array of sawguides against a steering structure secured to the elongate member.

6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the laterally positioning step is carried out with the steering structure pivotally mounted to the elongate member for pivotal movement about a steering structure axis.

7. The method according to claim 6 wherein the simultaneously pivoting step comprises selectively pivoting the steering structure about the steering structure axis.

1 8. The method according to claim 2 wherein the simultaneously
2 pivoting step is carried out with pivot pins extending between each said sawguide and a
3 channel oriented parallel to the drive arbor.

1 9. The method according to claim 2 wherein the laterally positioning
2 step is carried out in a manner so to position the sawguides along a path oriented parallel to
3 the drive arbor.

1 10. The method according to claim 9 wherein the laterally positioning
2 step is carried out with the path being a generally horizontal path.